Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 02775 201655Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 ONY-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1965

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NEA ONLY

FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VELIOTES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SOPR, MO

SUBJECT: ENCOUNTER BETWEEN AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND POLISARIO REPS

REF STATE 115382

1. MANY THANKS FOR REFTEL. AGREE IT IS IN MOROCCAN INTEREST NOT TO PLAY UP INCIDENT AND SO TOLD THEM BEFORE RECEIVING YOUR MESSAGE. FACT NO QUESTION RAISED AT MAY 19 PRESS BRIEFING WILL HOPEFULLY MEAN ISSUE IS DEAD. MOROCCANS ARE CONCERNED, HOWEVER, POLISARIO, ALGERIANS AND OTHERS MAY ATTEMPT TO USE IT.

2. IF IT TURNS OUT LIVE PUBLIC ISSUE IN WASHINGTON OR ELSEWHERE, SUGGEST FOLLOWING ADDITIONS TO AND CHANGES IN CURRENT PRESS GUIDANCE (STATE 115223).

A. IN FIRST ANSWER, ADD FOLLOWING JUST BEFORE LAST SENTENCE WHICH BEGINS "(IF PRESSED FURTHER) THERE IS REALLY NOTHING...":
" IN SHORT, THIS CHANCE ENCOUNTER HAS NO POLICY SIGNIFICANCE WHATSOEVER." ON BASIS OF OUR TELECON MAY 19, I PASSED THIS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER AND TO INFORMATION MINISTER WHO IN TURN TOLD KING.

B. ADD NEW QUESTION AND ANSWER AS FOLLOWS:

"QUESTION: WAS AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S MEETING WITH THE POLISARIO REPRESENTATIVE THE FORERUNNER OF UNITED STATES RECOGNITION OF

THE POLISARIO'S POLITICAL ARM, THE SAHARAN DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC?

ANSWER: USG DOES NOT REPEAT NOT INTEND TO RECOGNIZE SAHARAN DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC. SDAR DOES NOT CONTROL ANY TERRITORY, HAS NOT DEMONSTRATED CAPACITY FOR GOVERNMENT, NOT RECEIVED WIDE INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE, EVEN AMONG ESTABLISHED STATES OF SIMILAR OUTLOOK." ONLY CHANGE FROM STATE 84513 OF APRIL, 1976 WHICH YOU HAVE CONFIRMED REMAINS USG POLICY IS OMISSION OF "NEWLY DECLARED."

C. CHANGE SECOND ANSWER FOLLOWING WORDS "WESTERN SAHARA DISPUTE" TO READ "WHILE ENCOURAGING A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF REGIONAL DIFFERENCES." AS YOU KNOW, GOM DOES NOT CONSIDER ALGERIA, WHICH WAS NOT A SIGNATORY TO THE MADRID ACCORD OF NOVEMBER 14, 1975 AND HAS NO TERRITORIAL CLAIM TO THE SAHARA, AS AN INTERESTED PARTY.

3. IF YOU CHANGE GUIDANCE ALONG FOREGOING LINES, RECOMMEND REVISED GUIDANCE BE SENT TO PARIS AND MADRID IN ADDITION TO ADDRESSEES OF STATE 115223 FOR USE ON IF-ASKED BASIS ONLY. POINT IS WE SHOULD HAVE THIS READY IN FIELD IN EVENT POLISARIO AND ITS FRIENDS TAKE UP THE CUDGEL. ANDERSON

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